HUMAN
HATRED
DEEPE

SOLO EXHIBITION

RUBANAH
underground hub

Sum, absence, and the shades

Bibiana Lee

Curated by
Grace Samboh

Exhibition
19 August — 10 September 2023

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ART AND EXHIBITION DESIGN

Daftar Isi

Pengantar oleh Grace Samboh

Foto ruang pamer oleh M. Revaldi

Karya-karya Bibiana Lee

Foto ruang pamer oleh M. Revaldi

Tentang Bibiana Lee

Foto ruang pamer oleh M. Revaldi

Kolofon

Content

Introduction by Grace Samboh 1

Exhibition shot by M. Revaldi 4

Artworks Bibiana Lee 6

Exhibition shot by M. Revaldi 32

Profile Bibiana Lee 34

Exhibition shot by M. Revaldi 36

Colophon 40

Sum, absence, and the shades

Selamat datang di bawah tanah! Sebuah tempat di mana kenyataan hidup sehari-hari bisa hadir, sekaligus berjarak dengannya—walau hanya sedikit lebih dari sepuluh langkah turun tangga dari dataran Jalan Timor. RUBANAH, berlokasi di rubanah, adalah sebuah white cube—bukan semata karena dindingnya berwarna putih, namun juga karena keberjarakan ruang semacam ini dengan kenyataan hidup sehari-hari. Tidak sering saya berkesempatan menyapa Anda dengan cara ini. Dalam pameran tunggal Bibiana, sapaan ini jadi masuk akal! Bibiana mengajak kita untuk meninggalkan jejak tangan—berikut dengan sidik jari—dalam ruang pamer ini. Di antaranya, ia menyebarkan penggalan kekhawatiran serta panggilan pengingatnya mengenai salah satu permasalahan kemanusiaan terbesar abad ini: Perbedaan warna kulit manusia dan bagaimana manusia membedakan diri, kelompok, dan kaumnya berdasarkan warna kulit.

Tak ada warna yang bisa Anda lihat dengan kasat mata dalam ruang pamer ini. Hitam (dan putih) adalah elemen yang mempengaruhi keberadaan warna. Hitam adalah elemen yang menyerap segala warna, semakin banyak hitam, semakin gelap warna. Sementara putih adalah jumlah dari segala warna. Secara harafiah, jika semua warna yang ada kita tambahkan, maka hadirlah putih. Tanpa elemen putih (kadang disebut cahaya), kita tak bisa melihat warna. Tegangan antara kedua elemen ini, hitam dan putih, adalah abu-abu (atau bayangan). Spektrum yang dicakup abu-abu sedemikian luasnya sehingga kerap hadir tak terdefinisikan. Tanpa bayangan, kita tak bisa menyadari ruang. Tanpa abu-abu, tak ada 'derap' warna. Melalui pameran ini, Bibiana menyoal elemen yang mendasari permasalahan warna (kulit). Berikut sepenggal pernyataannya, saya kutip dari ARTJOG 2023 Motif: Lamaran, di Yogyakarta:

> "Realitasnya, sebagian besar kita, kalau bukan seluruhnya, gemar memperhatikan warna kulit dari ras-ras berbeda. Karena itu kita mesti mengakui keberadaan warna-warna yang

Sum, absence, and the shades

Welcome to the underground! A place where our daily lived reality goes shoulder-to-shoulder and oceans-apart with us simultaneously—even though we only had to take a few steps down from the middle world that is Jalan Timor to be here. RUBANAH, the basement, which is, yes, located in the basement, and is also a white cube—not for its walls, which are, in fact, white, but because the character gap between this room and the reality of our daily lives. Honestly, I rarely get to welcome a visitor like this. In this exhibition, however, this little hello made sense! Think about it: Bibiana invited us to leave a handprint—including our fingerprint—inside the exhibition space. By doing it, she tried to share bits of her anxiety. She is inviting and reminding us about one of the most substantial issue in our civilisations: our skin color and how we created segregations, groups, races based on it.

In this exhibition, no color is visible by merely your own eyes. Black (and white) is an influential element to the existence of color. Black is an element that absorbs all color—the blacker, the darker. Meanwhile, white is a sum of all colors. Literally, if you combine all colors in the color spectrum, you'll get yourself some white. Without white as one of the elements (often mentioned as lighting), we wouldn't be able to see color. The tension between these elements, black and white, is gray (or shadow). The spectrum gray encompasses is so expansive that it often exists without definition. Without shadow, we can't perceive space. Without gray, there would be no "click-clack" in colors. This is what Bibiana said in ARTJOG 2023 Motif: Lamaran in Jogjakarta:

> "In reality, most of us, if not all of us, like to point out the different skin colors among ethnicities. Because of this, we need to acknowledge the existence of differing skin colors and how the discrepancies it bring. Only with being aware, acknowledging, and respecting this varieties, and admitting that racism does exist, we could move on to create an inclusive society that embrace diversity."

berbeda dan perbedaan-perbedaan yang ditimbulkannya. Hanya dengan menyadari, mengakui dan menghormati perbedaan-perbedaan dari ras-ras itu dan menerima bahwa rasisme memang eksis, kita dapat melangkah untuk menciptakan masyarakat inklusif yang mengayomi perbedaan."

Bertubi-tubi samsak, lengkap dengan sarung tinjunya, pasrah dipukuli kapan saja oleh pengunjung pameran ARTJOG2023. Para penjaga pameran pun dengan aktif mengajak pengunjung untuk mencoba kinerja instalasi ini. Dalam beragam unggahan di sosial media, orang-orang dengan entengnya unjuk adegan pukul-memukul dalam pepasang Bibiana yang bertajuk I (don't) see color (2023). Karya Bibiana di ARTJOG2023 ini berwarna-warni, tanpa setitikpun (elemen) hitam dan putih pada samsak-samsak dan senarai sarung tinjunya. Humor nan satir dalam karya ini: Kebanyakan kasus kekerasan atas nama perbedaan warna kulit dilakukan oleh mereka yang tidak buta warna. Berkebalikan, namun bersambut, dengan pepasang Bibiana di ARTJOG2023, di ruang pamer ini tak ada setitikpun warna yang hadir.

Beberapa karya Bibiana hadir bersama sebuah kode QR di dekatnya. Dengan gawai yang dilengkapi aplikasi Instagram, Anda akan bisa melihat warna! Kode QR akan membawa Anda kepada sebuah filter dalam fasilitas story di Instagram. Hanya melalui filter itulah warna kulit tangan-tangan dalam lukisan Bibiana menjadi tampak. Gawai, dan beragam aplikasi media sosial, memang jadi pintu masuk bagi kebanyakan dari kita, yang berbahasa Indonesia, pada permasalahan ras. Tagar #BlackLivesMatters dalam ranah media sosial semacam membuka kanal topik rasisme yang segera saja bercampur dengan kenyataan sehari-hari bangsa Indonesia yang lebih dekat dengan perbedaan suku serta etnis. Keragaman suku dan etnis di sekitar kita hadir dalam tegangan yang berbeda dengan perihal perbedaan ras. Ini bukan ruang untuk mengeksplorasi perbedaan antara perihal ras, kesukuan, dan etnis. Hanya saja, saya merasa

Punching bags and boxing gloves were there with resignation, ready to be used any time of the day by the visitors of ARTJOG2023. All the exhibition guards also encouraged the visitors to try on the installation. In various social media posts, people cozily shared their brawling sessions with Bibiana's installation, which she titled I (don't) see color (2023). Bibiana's work in ARTJOG2023 was colorful, without black and white on the punching bags and the gloves. Bibiana presented a satirical irony in this work: most of the skin color-based violence is done by ones who don't have colorblind. As a contrast, or a response, to Bibiana's installation in ARTJOG2023, the exhibition room here in RUBANAH doesn't use any color.

Some of Bibiana's works are displayed alongside a QR code. Using the Instagram app on your gadgets, you can see the colors! The QR code will bring you to an Instagram Story filter. Only through the filter will the skin color of the hands in Bibiana's paintings become visible. Most of us who speak Indonesian first became aware of racial issues through gadgets and social media platforms. The hashtag #BlackLivesMatters on social media has sparked conversations on racism—a topic that was pertinent to the daily reality of Indonesia, which is rife with ethnic diversity. Our diversity of ethnicities has different tension from the American racial diversity. The exhibition doesn't try discuss the differences between races and ethnicities. However, I feel the urge to write this point so our exhibition experience won't be simplified into the currently popular key word: racism.

Bibiana's invitation to leave a handprint in the exhibition space is an extension of her attempts to collect photographs of her friends' hands from all around the world. The hands depicted in Bibiana's works—displayed in this gallery—were drawn from her collection. Bibiana collected these photographs with the intention of capturing different shades of human skin color. Thus, the hands in the collections were shown from above rather than from the palms, unlike how prehistoric humans frequently left imprints in caves. This (personal) effort to

perlu untuk setidaknya memunculkan catatan ini supaya pengalaman pameran ini tidak semata disederhanakan dalam kata kunci yang sedang deras alirannya: Rasisme.

Panggilan Bibiana untuk meninggalkan jejak tangan Anda dalam ruang pamer ini adalah perluasan dari upayanya mengumpulkan foto beragam tangan teman-temannya dari seluruh penjuru dunia. Tangan-tangan yang hadir dalam karya Bibiana, di ruang pamer ini, adalah sebagian dari pengumpulannya. Bibiana mengumpulkan foto-foto ini dengan semangat mengumpulkan beragam shade (jenjang) warna kulit manusia. Maka, foto-foto tangan kumpulan Bibiana hadir dari sisi atas, bukan dari telapak seperti bagaimana manusia kerap meninggalkan jejak di gua. Upaya (pribadi) mengumpulkan jenjang warna kulit manusia ini bisa jadi pembelajaran mengenai perbedaan dan bagaimana ia demikian nyata dalam lingkungan sosial kita.

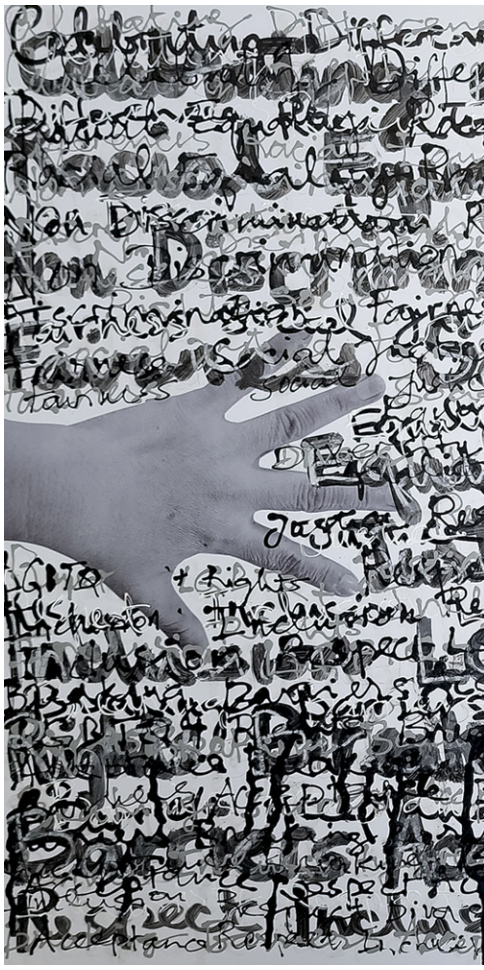
Dalam ruang pamer ini, karena mesin penyalinnya tak berwarna, alias hanya menggunakan 'tinta' hitam, tak terlalu masalah sisi mana dari tangan Anda yang Anda tinggalkan. Absennya warna dalam ruang pamer ini adalah #kodekeras—dalam bahasa anak 'sekarang'. Bertautan dengan senarai teks dalam ruang pamer ini adalah catatan penelusuran, hasil bacaan, kegelisahan, pertanyaan, bercampur dengan ajakan untuk memikirkan lagi perihal perbedaan warna kulit, baik dalam kerangka ras, suku, maupun etnis. Diantaranya satir, utopia, dan harapan, bercampur. Dalam ruang pamer yang cenderung steril—kalau bukan terisolasi, walau sejenak saja—dari kenyataan hidup sehari-hari, ruang dan waktu berpikir menjadi mungkin dan terjangkau.

collect shades of human skin color could serve as a lesson on diversity and how prevalent it is in our social surroundings.

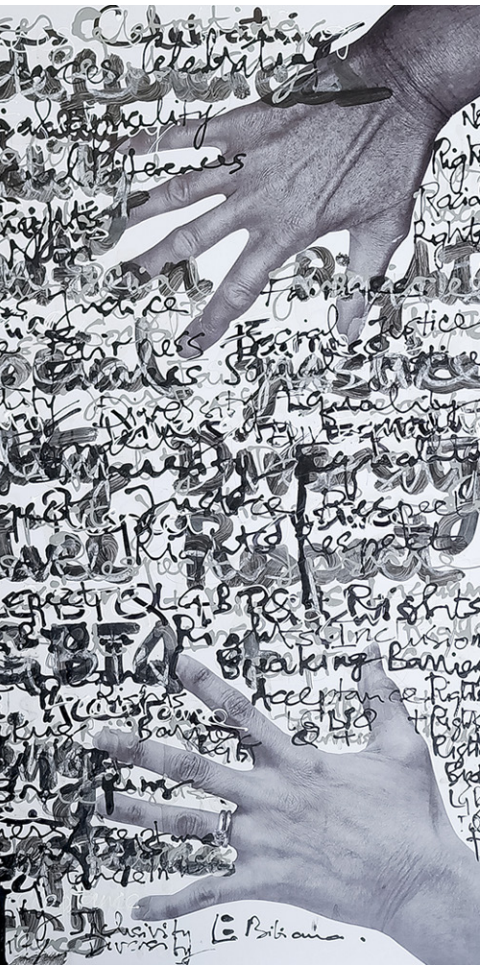
Since the copier machine in this exhibition space is colorless—meaning it only utilizes black 'ink'—you can pick any side of your hand. In today's lingo, we might say that the absence of color in this exhibition space is #hardcoded. The entire list of texts presented here—the research notes, reading findings, anxieties, and questions—comes with an invitation to reconsider the matter of skin color distinctions through the framework of racial and ethnic identities. Thus, satire, utopia, and yearning — all of them merged. Within an exhibition space that is typically sterile—if not removed, even for a brief moment—from the reality of everyday life, space and time for reflection emerges and made accessible.

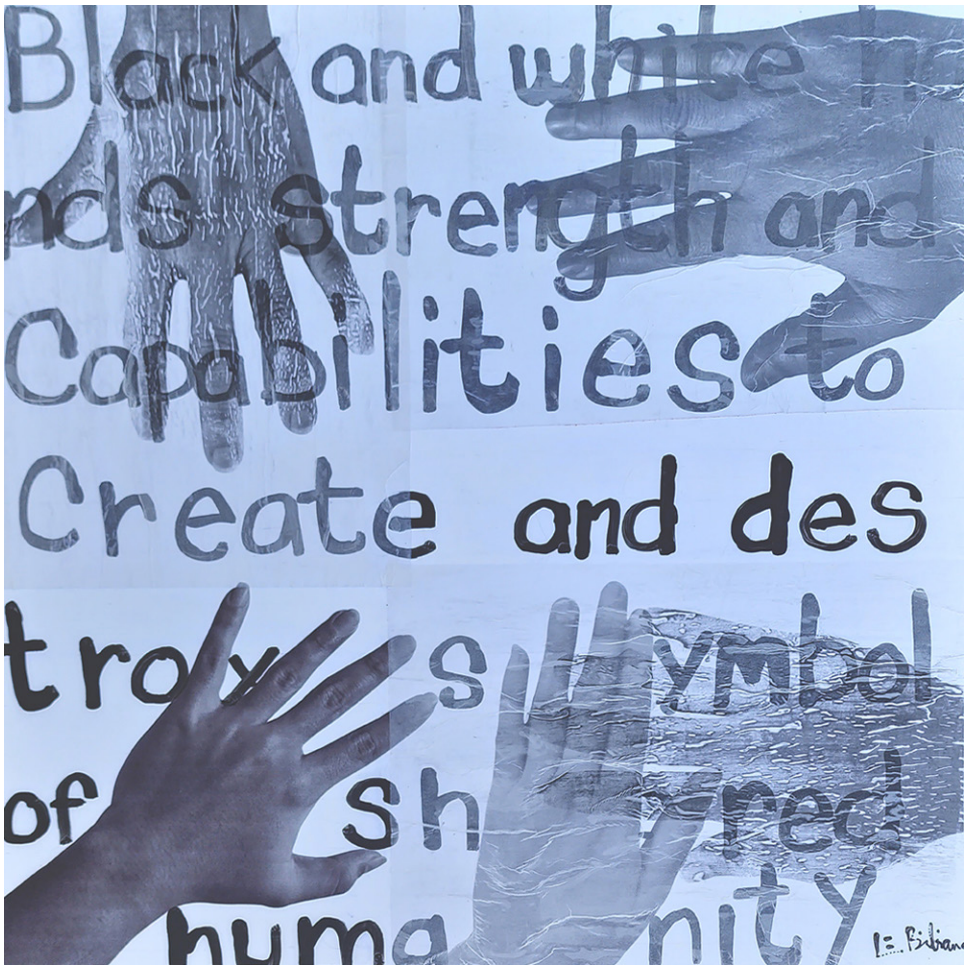
Cinta ainsore ono Saragu
Sarage Juana Hu Cinta
The rich
thnic diversi
INDONESIA
makes it a vibran
nation

Imperfect 1
2023
Mix media on paper
triptych, 50 x 50 cm (each)



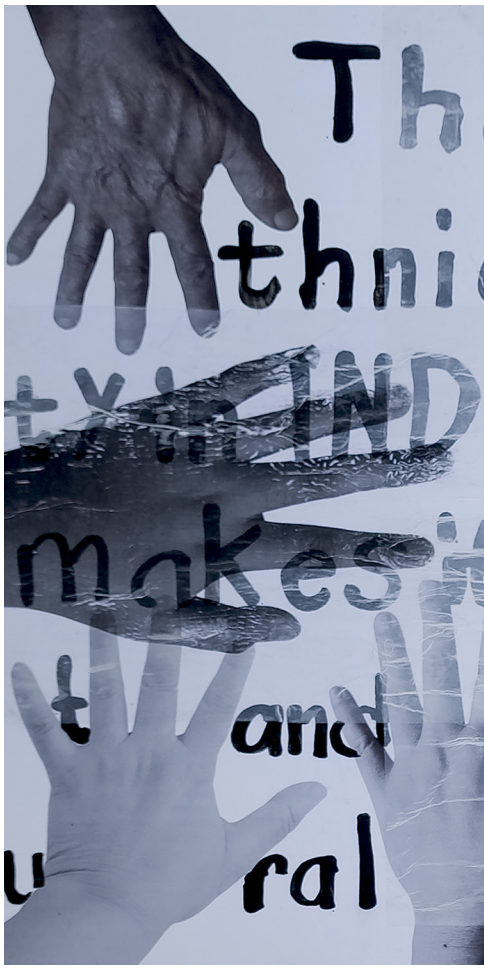
Imperfect 1
2023
Mix media on paper
triptych, 50 x 50 cm (each)



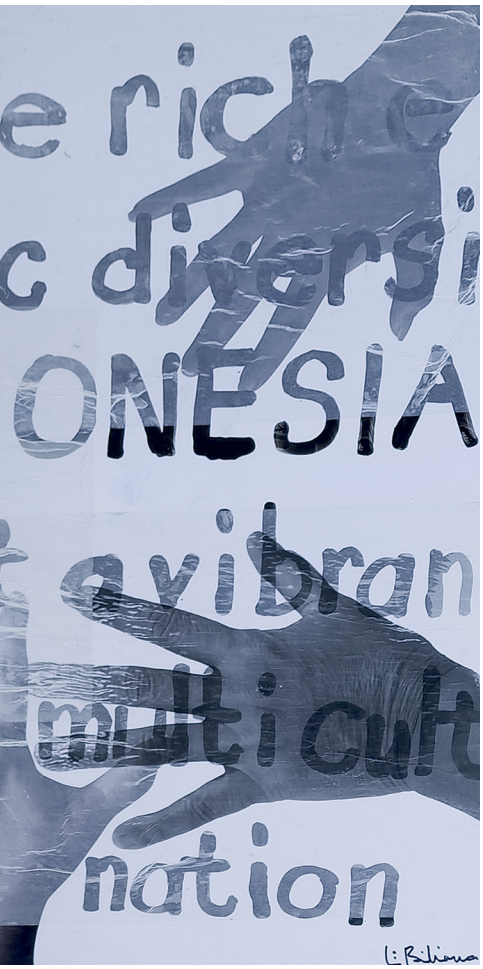


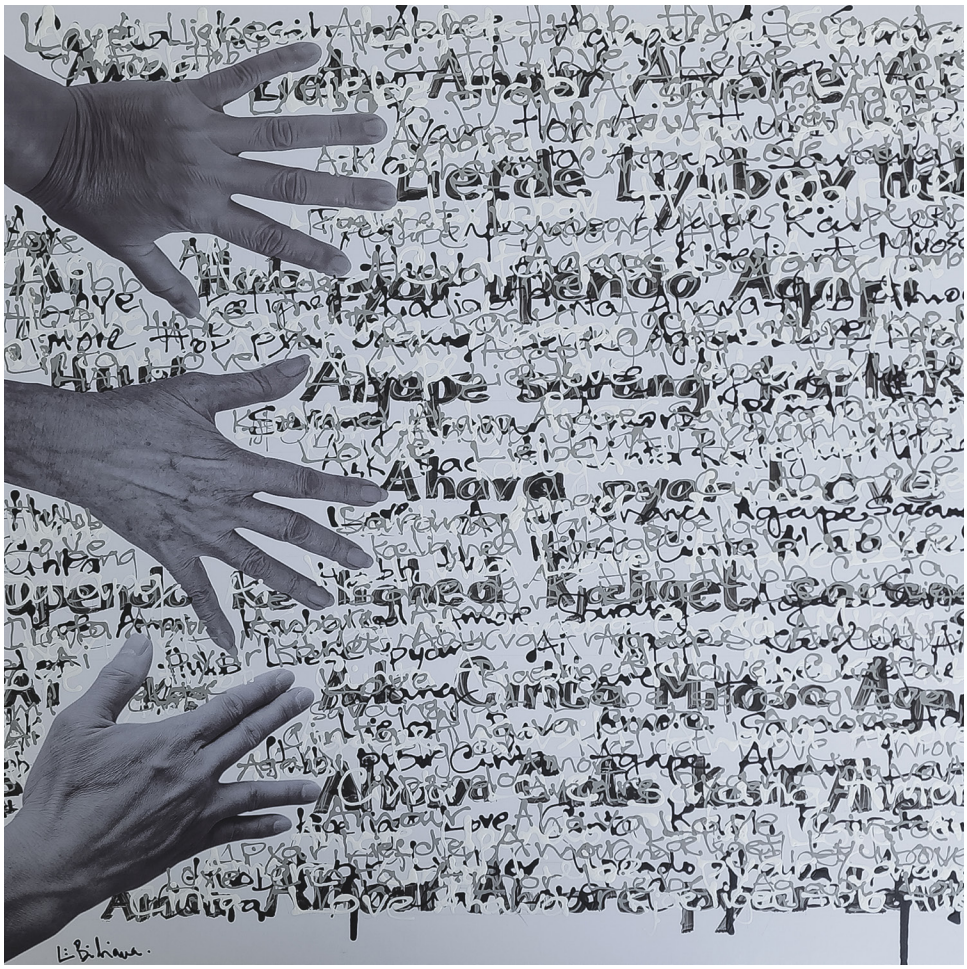
Imperfect 1
2023
Mix media on paper
triptych, 50 x 50 cm (each)

Imperfect 2
2023
Mix media on paper
triptych, 50 x 50 cm (each)



Imperfect 2
2023
Mix media on paper
triptych, 50 x 50 cm (each)

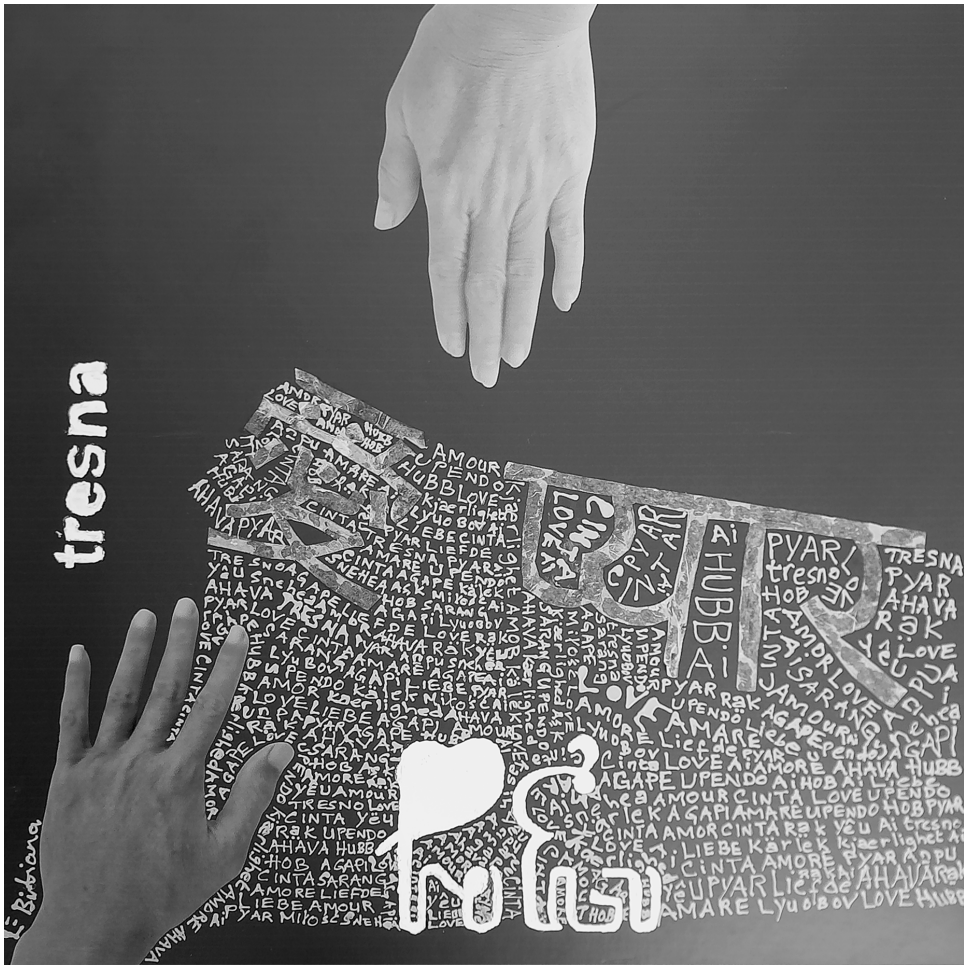




Imperfect 2
2023
Mix media on paper
triptych, 50 x 50 cm (each)

LOVE no. 1
2023
Mix media on paper
50 x 50 cm

Together we stand
2023
Mix media on paper
50 x 50 cm



TRESNA
2023
Mix media on paper
50 x 50 cm

DIVERSE PERSPECTIVES
2023
Digital print on photo paper
50 x 50 cm

ARE WE ALL CREATED EQUAL ?

Bibiana

equal
2023
Digital print on photo paper
50 x 50 cm

IDEALLY
2023
Digital print on photo paper
50 x 50 cm

NAME CALLING
2023
Digital print on photo paper
50 x 50 cm

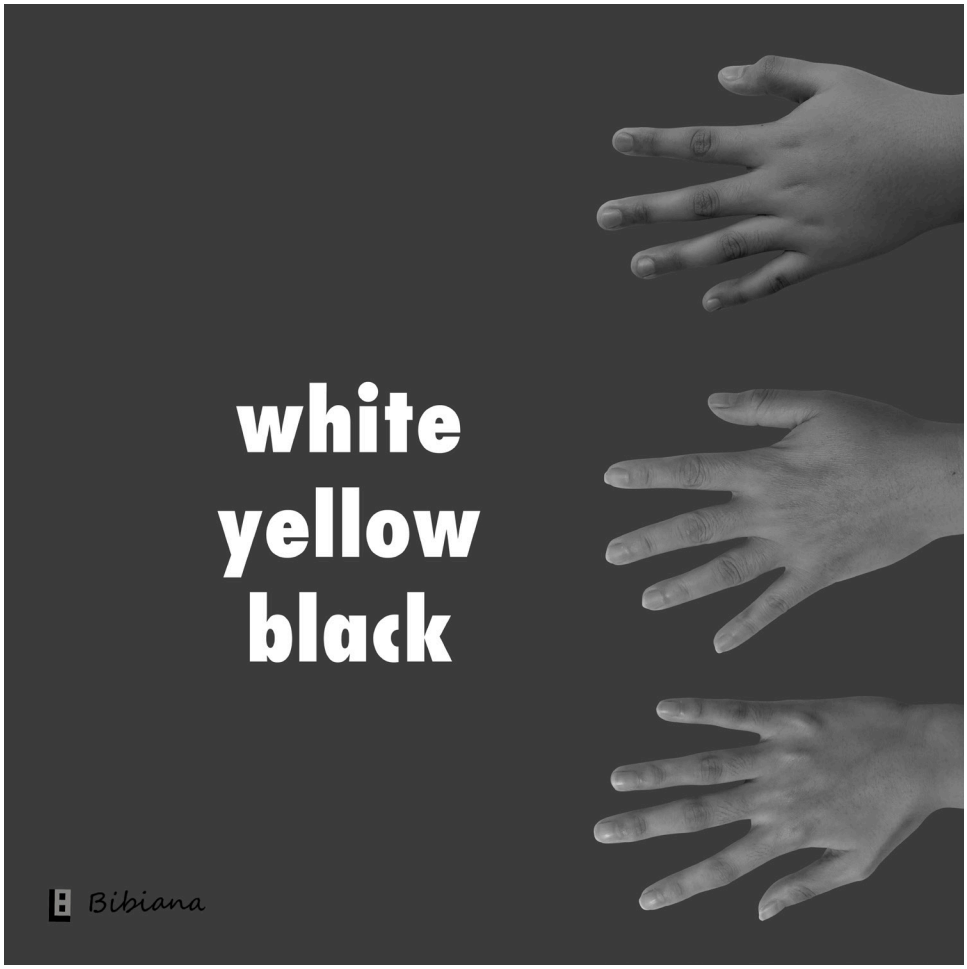
THE CHOICE
2023
Digital print on photo paper
50 x 50 cm

times are
changing
the belief
that
there is ONE
superior
race is no
longer valid

Bibiana

TIMES ARE CHANGING
2023
Digital print on photo paper
50 x 50 cm

WOKE
2023
Digital print on photo paper
50 x 50 cm



WYB
2023
Digital print on photo paper
50 x 50 cm

HUMANS HAVE MORE COMMONALITIES THAN THE SUPERFICIAL VISIBILITIES LIKE SKIN COLOUR

Bibiana

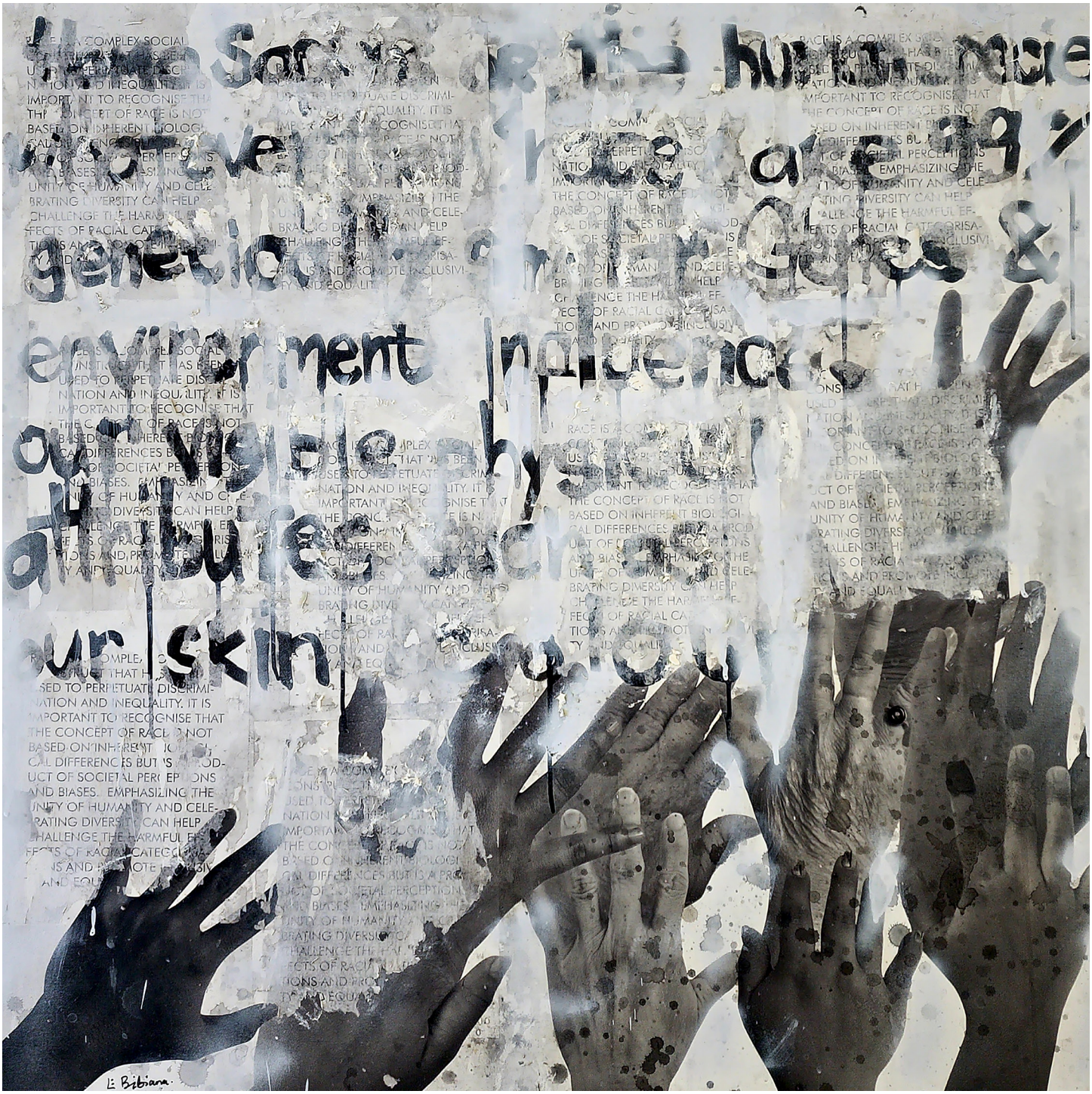
COMMONALITIES
2023
Digital print on photo paper
50 x 50 cm

A MYTH
2023
Digital print on photo paper
50 x 50 cm

beyond colour
2023
Mix media on canvas
100 x 100 cm

CREATION
2023
Digital print on canvas or painting, augmented reality
100 x 100 cm

SUPREMACY
2023
Digital print on canvas or painting, augmented reality
100 x 100 cm



SALFOK
2023
Mix media on canvas
100 x 100 cm

NUMERO UNO
2023
Digital print on canvas or painting, augmented reality
100 x 100 cm

RACE IS A MYTH
2023
Mix media on canvas
100 x 100 cm

THE LINE
2023
Digital print on canvas or painting, augmented reality
100x100cm

Since all humans share
99% genetic traits
can we say that
RACE is a MYTH

Bibiana Lee mencoba menghadirkan sebuah kesadaran yang lebih kritis akan apa yang terjadi di sekitarnya melalui karya-karyanya. Kebanyakan karyanya didasari oleh risetnya terhadap peristiwa-peristiwa di kehidupan nyata. Diskriminasi terhadap minoritas, ketidakadilan, represi, identitas politik, gender, dan juga permasalahan sosial ekonomi, globalisasi, dan lingkungan ditampilkan melalui karya dua maupun tiga dimensi, karya interaktif dan video, yang seringkali menggabungkan teks atau kata-kata pada berbagai macam media. Karya-karyanya yang memberi suara kepada mereka yang tidak bersuara dapat diakses melalui laman pribadinya: www.bibiana-art.com

Pada 2005, Bibiana adalah finalis IGDS (Indonesian Good Design Selection) untuk desain alat makan keramiknya, Mbok Jamu. Pada 2009, ia meraih Honorable Mention Award of di Art & Photography Exhibition of the Indonesian Heritage Society dan finalis Erlangga Installation Art Award pada 2022.

Bibiaba Lee tries to incite a more critical consciousness of what is happening around her through her art works. Most of her works are based on research of real - life events. Discrimination against minorities, injustice, repression, identity (politics), gender, as well as socio-economic, globalization and environmental issues are expressed through her 2 as well as 3-dimensional, interactive and video works often incorporating text or words over an array of media. Her works which often give voice to the voiceless, can be seen via her website: www.bibiana-art.com.

In 2005, she was a finalist in IGDS (Indonesian Good Design Selection) for her Mbok Jamu ceramics/dinnerware design. In 2009, she received the Honorable Mention Award of the Art & Photography Exhibition of the Indonesian Heritage Society. She was a finalist in the Erlangga Installation Art Award 2022.

Since all humans share 99% genetic traits can we say that RACE is MYTH
LEAVE YOUR MARK!
COPY YOUR HAND PRINTS!
TINGGALKAN MARKA!
SALIN JEJAK TANGAN ANDA!
HUMANS HAVE MORE COMMONALITIES THAN THE SUPERFICIAL VISIBILITIES LIKE OUR SKIN COLOR
RACE IS A MYTH
race is a social construct which led to slavery persecution and deaths of many many many many innocent people

times are changing the belief that there is ONE superior race is no longer valid
DO YOU WANT TO CHANGE THE COLOUR OF YOUR SKIN ?
ARE WE ALL CREATED EQUAL ?
the choice is yours
be woke
RACE IS
CONSTRUCTED
LED TO
PERSECUTION
DEATHS OF
MANY MAY
INNOCENT
white
yellow
black

Kolofon

Perancang
M Ilham Samudra

Penerjemah (ID > EN)
Norman Erikson Pasaribu

Pengelola Pameran
Akmalia Rizqita "Chita", Marsilam Sun Lukas

Pemasang Karya
This/Play

Pengelola Katalog
Rahmanni Fitri

Penerbit
Rubanah Underground Hub,
2023

Colophon

Designer
M Ilham Samudra

Translator (ID > EN)
Norman Erikson Pasaribu

Exhibition Coordinators
Akmalia Rizqita "Chita", Marsilam Sun Lukas

Art Handlers
This/Play

Catalog Coordinator
Rahmanni Fitri

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RUBANAH Underground Hub
Wisma Geha Basement
Jl. Timor No. 25, Menteng,
Jakarta Pusat 10350

www.rubanahundergroundhub.art

RACE IS A COMPLEX SOCIAL CONSTRUCT THAT HAS BEEN USED TO PERPETUATE DISCRIMINATION AND INEQUALITY. IT IS IMPORTANT TO RECOGNISE THAT THE CONCEPT OF RACE IS NOT BASED ON INHERENT BIOLOGICAL DIFFERENCES BUT IS A PRODUCT OF SOCIETAL PERCEPTIONS AND BIASES. EMPHASIZING THE UNITY OF HUMANITY AND CELEBRATING DIVERSITY CAN HELP CHALLENGE THE HARMFUL EFFECTS OF RACIAL CATEGORISATIONS AND PROMOTE INCLUSIVITY AND EQUALITY
genetically
environment influenced
our visible physical
attributes such as
our skin colour
L. Bibiana.

REACHING OUT
LOVE MAKES THE WORLD GO ROUND
CONNECTING
SOLIDARITY
EQUALITY
PEACE
LOVE
Lt. Bubiana